

Appl. No. 10/028,078
Amdt. Dated 05/02/2005
Reply to Office Action of January 13, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed January 13, 2005. In the Office Action, claims 11-14 were allowed and claims 2-9, 15 and 17-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. It has been identified that previously added claims 23-25 were incorrectly numbered since original claims 24-25 were already present in the original application. Therefore, previously added claims 23-25 are now renumbered as claims 26-28.

On April 18, 2005, in an Examiner interview conducted by telephone, the Examiner agreed to reinstate original claims 24-25 since these claims were not officially cancelled. Claim 24 is dependent on objected claim 23, and thus, is in condition for allowance. Claim 25 has been altered to include limitations set forth in objected claim 8, which is now in condition for allowance. In the telephonic interview, the Examiner has tentatively agreed to allow claim 25 as presented, provided the Examiner agrees that limitations set forth in allowable claim 8 are also found in claim 25. Allowance of claims 24 and 25 is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 15, 17 and 21 have been amended to correct minor informalities as identified by the Examiner. In addition, Applicants have amended claim 22 to account for antecedent basis corrections now caused by the amendment of claim 21.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the outstanding §112 rejection. Hence, claims 2-9, 15, 17-23 and 26-28 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 4/13/2005

By


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